

22. The process of claim 1 wherein said liquid is polyethylene glycol having a molecular weight less than about 1000.

23. The process of claim 1 wherein said water-dispersible, non-particulate detergent product has at least about 5% greater dispersability in water as compared to a non-particulate detergent product having a density of at least about 1000 g/l but not having said liquid added to said low density particulate detergent composition per step (b).

24. The process of claim 23 wherein said water-dispersible, non-particulate detergent product has in a range of from about 5% to about 200% greater dispersibility in water and wherein said liquid is polyethylene glycol having a molecular weight less than 1000.

25. The process of claim 1 wherein said liquid is a non-ionic liquid surfactant which is homogeneously mixed with said low density detergent particles.

26. A rapidly water-dispersible non-particulate detergent product formed by a process comprising the steps of:

(a) providing low density detergent particles having an intra-particle porosity in a range of from about 5% to about 90% by volume;

(b) adding a liquid to said low-density detergent particles in an amount sufficient to reduce said intra-particle porosity by at least about 10%; and

(c) compacting said low density detergent particles having said reduced intra-particle porosity, by applying a pressure in an amount sufficient to form said water-dispersible, non-particulate detergent product having a density of at least about 1000 g/l.

27. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 26 wherein said low density detergent particles of step (a) have an intra-particle porosity in a range of from about 10% to about 80% by volume.

28. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 26 wherein said low density detergent particles of step (a) have a bulk density no less than about 400 g/l.

29. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 28 wherein said low density detergent particles of step (a) have a bulk density in a range of from about 400g/l to about 850g/l.

30. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 26 wherein said liquid is a nonionic surfactant and is added to said low density detergent particles in an amount sufficient to reduce said intra-particle porosity by at least about 20%.

31. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 26 wherein said liquid is selected from the group consisting of nonionic surfactants, anionic surfactants, water, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

32. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 26 wherein said liquid is polyethylene glycol having a molecular weight less than about 1000.

33. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 26 wherein said water-dispersible, non-particulate detergent product has at least about 5% greater dispersability in water as compared to a non-particulate detergent product having a density of at least about 1000 g/l but not having said liquid added to said low density particulate detergent composition per step (b).

34. The detergent product formed by the process of claim 26 wherein said liquid is polyethylene glycol having a molecular weight less than about 1000, said polyethylene glycol is homogeneously mixed with said low density detergent particles, and at least 80% by weight of said detergent product is dispersible in water after being immersed in water for no greater than about 3 minutes.

35. A method of laundering soiled clothes comprising the step of immersing said soiled clothes in an aqueous medium containing an effective amount of a non-particulate detergent product made by a process according to claim 1.

36. A process for producing a water-dispersible, non-particulate detergent product from a low density detergent composition, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing spray dried detergent granules having a bulk density less than about 650 g/l;
- (b) providing agglomerated detergent particles having a bulk density in a range of from about 700 g/l to about 900 g/l;
- (c) mixing said spray dried detergent granules and said agglomerated detergent particles to form a low density detergent composition, wherein said spray dried detergent granules are present in a range of from about 40% to about 80% by weight of said low density detergent composition and said agglomerated detergent particles are present in a range of from about 20% to about 60% by weight of said low density detergent composition;
- (d) adding a liquid to said low density detergent composition in an amount sufficient to reduce said intra-particle porosity by at least about 10%; and
- (e) compacting said low density detergent composition having said reduced intra-particle porosity, by applying a pressure in an amount sufficient to form said water-dispersible, non-particulate detergent product having a density of at least about 1000 g/l.


37. A method of laundering fabric materials in a washing machine, comprising the steps of:  
providing a flexible porous bag adapted for receiving a non-particulate detergent product;  
providing a non-particulate detergent product made by a process according to claim 1;  
placing said non-particulate detergent product within said flexible porous bag;  
placing said flexible porous bag containing said detergent product in said washing machine  
with said fabric materials to be washed; and  
said flexible porous bag being adapted for permitting entry of an aqueous washing medium  
through said bag, thereby dissolving said non-particulate detergent product placed therein, into said  
aqueous washing medium, and releasing a resultant wash solution from inside of said bag to outside  
of said bag into said aqueous wash medium during a wash cycle.

38. The method of claim 37 wherein said non-particulate detergent product has a density of at  
least 1000 g/l.

The support for these amendments is found in the claims as originally filed. These amendments are  
being entered to bring the claims into conformance with, *inter alia*, 37 CFR §1.75; no new matter is  
added.

Respectfully submitted for Applicants,

By:

  
T. David Reed  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 32,931

23 October 2000  
5299 Spring Grove Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45217-1087  
Phone: (513) 627-7025  
FAX: (513) 627-6333